SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
EXPOSING THE STRANGE SECRETS OF OTHER WORLDS!
SUPERMAN
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MYSTERY IN SPACE
DEC.
JAN.
NO. 11
A PRIZE OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO ANYONE WHO CAN GUESS WHAT THE CREATURE INSIDE THIS SPACE-SHIP LOOKS LIKE!

Uncle Bernie's FUN SHOP

BUY NOW — at our Low Low PRICES!

Happy the Cowboy

I'm terrific!

- HE'S OVER 19" TALL!
- MOVES HIS MOUTH, ARMS AND LEGS!
- REAL COWBOY OUTFIT!

Hey kids — here's your chance to become a master ventriloquist — in a jiffy! Imagine — you can make *HAPPY* the COWBOY actually talk! (in your own voice, of course.) Pull the string in the back of his head — watch his lips move — hear your own words coming right out of *HAPPY'S* mouth! See how real he looks — rigged up in a cowboy hat, washable plaid shirt and western pants. . . Show off your skill at parties — at school! SEND NO MONEY. (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

Hi! I'm GINGER! the Doll whose HAIR YOU CAN WAVE!

FREE HAIR WAVE KIT

A wonderful new doll in washable rubber Wonderskin whose hair is so lifelike it can be waved in any style and rewaved just like your own. A perfect playmate for the "Junior Mother" of the house. Complete with real Hair-wave kit which consists of . . . plastic curlers . . . rubber waving bands . . . waving end papers . . . plastic comb . . . and bottle of hair wave lotion. Ginger is 11 inches tall. Her soft cuddly body which can be bathed will give the "Junior Miss" an almost real baby sister to play with.

AMAZING • EXCITING • IT'S TELEVUE!

SUPER DELUXE

ELECTRIC TV PROJECTOR

SHOWS REAL FILMS

- A BIG SHOW — "Little Red Riding Hood"
- A REAL PROJECTOR! Bright Red Plastic!
- A COLORFUL THEATRE with Screen!
- COMPLETELY SAFE! Any Child Can Operate

EXTRA FILM
3 FILMS ONLY $1.00

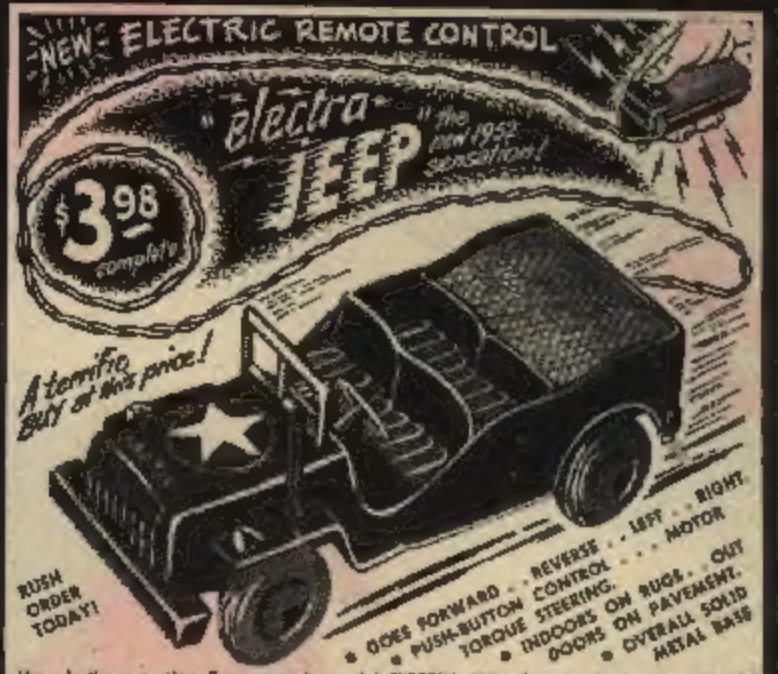
SNOW WHITE
THE OWL AND THE PUSSY CAT
JINGLE BELLS
THREE LITTLE PIGS
JACK AND JILL
RIP VAN WINKLE
TOM THUMB
ROBINSON CRUSOE
HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT
WINKIN WILLIE

Now any child can show the most exciting movies at home with this streamlined TELEVUE Projector, complete with colorful theatre and screen. The bright red plastic projector is safe and simple to operate — nothing to get out of order. Think of the fun of watching your favorite come to life on the theatre screen! This Super Deluxe Projector will mean big movie parties for friends and family. You boys and girls will be fascinated with the Big Movie Shows, and running movies all by yourself is the greatest treat of them all!

NEW ELECTRIC REMOTE CONTROL

"electra-JEEP" the new 1952 sensation!

$3.98 complete



- GOES FORWARD . . REVERSE . . LEFT . . RIGHT
- PUSH-BUTTON CONTROL . . . MOTOR
- TORQUE STEERING.
- INDOORS ON RUGS . . OUT DOORS ON PAVEMENT.
- OVERALL SOLID METAL BASE

Here is the sensationally new scale model ELECTRA JEEP that captivates every child! Push the button and off she goes—forward, to the left, to the right, or reverse. Runs outdoors on pavement or indoors on rug. Over ½ foot long with overall solid metal base and solid rubber wheels, and motor torque steering. Loads of fun for children and grownups alike! Rush your order today! SEND NO MONEY. (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

SEND COUPON!

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59 East 8th Street, New York 3, N. Y.

Gentlemen: Please send me the following.
Enclosed find: ☐ Check or M.O. ☐ C.O.D. plus postage.

☐ Ginger	$3.98	☐ Happy the Cowboy	$2.98
☐ Electric Jeep	$3.98	☐ Television Projector (3 Films $1.00)	$2.98

Name_____

Address_____ City_____ State_____

SEND NO MONEY C. O. D. you pay postage and handling charges. Remit with order we pay postage.

NOVELTY MART 59 E. 8th St., New York 3, N. Y. Dept. 10

THE UNKNOWN SPACEMAN!

MAMMOTH MILLION DOLLAR CONTEST!
GUESS WHAT THE SPACE VISITORS WILL LOOK LIKE -- AND WIN A FORTUNE!

SOME DAY-- SOONER THAN WE THINK, PERHAPS-- THE FIRST VISITORS FROM ANOTHER PLANET WILL LAND ON EARTH! BUT WHAT WILL THESE PEOPLE LOOK LIKE? TRY AND GUESS-- THEN SEE WHETHER *YOU* WOULD HAVE BEEN THE WINNER OF A MILLION DOLLAR PRIZE OFFERED FOR THE BEST DESCRIPTION!-

FROM SOMEWHERE OUT IN INTERSTELLAR SPACE CAME THE MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE -- INTERRUPTING EVERY RADIO AND TELE-VISION BROADCAST...

DIT-DAT-DA-DA-DIT...

DIT-DAT-DA-DA-DIT...

DIT-DAT-DA-DA-DIT...

MYSTERY IN SPACE, No. 11, Dec., '52-Jan., '53. Published bi-monthly by National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. Entered as second class matter at the post office at New York, N. Y. under the act of Mar. 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U.S. 75c including postage. Foreign $1.50 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Faldon & Co., 205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y.

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Printed in U.S.A.

MYSTERY IN SPACE

EXPERT CODE MEN IN WASHINGTON, LONDON, AND PARIS LABORED OVER THE STRANGE SOUNDS. THREE WEEKS AFTER THE MESSAGE BEGAN, THEY BROKE IT...

HERE IT IS! THE MOST INCREDIBLE COMMUNICATION IN ALL HISTORY!

THE WORLD PRESSES THUNDERED OUT EXTRA EDITIONS...

SHANGHAI
SPECIAL EDITION The RECORD
EXTRA!! EXTRA!! EXTRA!!
MEN FROM DISTANT PLANET TO LAND ON EARTH IN ONE MONTH!
VISITORS FROM PLANET REVOLVING AROUND STAR ANTARES!
Story on Page 2
BERLIN
MADRID
BULLETIN

A WILDLY EXCITED WORLD WAITED BREATHLESSLY...

I WONDER WHAT THEY WILL BE LIKE?

IT REMAINED FOR HARRISON HAMMOND, PRESIDENT OF THE HAMMOND NEWSPAPER SYNDICATE, TO OFFER A MILLION DOLLAR AWARD FOR THE CORRECT ANSWER...

GENTLEMEN, IT'S WORTH A MILLION DOLLARS IN PUBLICITY TO RUN SUCH A CONTEST!

THIS IS THE LANDSCAPE OF THEIR PLANET AS OUR SCIENTISTS IMAGINE IT! OUR PRIZE WILL BE AWARDED TO THE CONTESTANT WHO PREDICTS EXACTLY HOW THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD WILL *LOOK!*

LURED BY THE BIGGEST MONEY CONTEST OF ALL TIME, ARTISTS RUSHED TO THEIR EASELS TO DRAW THEIR CONCEPTIONS OF THE COMING VISITORS...

MYSTERY IN SPACE

SCIENTISTS COLLABORATED WITH SCULPTORS...

FROM A SCIENTIFIC POINT OF VIEW IT IS LIKELY THAT EVOLUTION WOULD PRODUCE SUCH A BEING!

BOYS GAVE UP BASEBALL TO BUILD ODD DESIGNS WITH THEIR ERECTOR SETS...

IN INDIA, MEN DUG WET CLAY FROM THE RIVER BANKS TO MOLD THEIR CONCEPTION OF THE SPACEMEN...

IN NAVAJO COUNTRY, RUGS WERE WOVEN WITH STRANGE FIGURES IN THEIR CENTERS..

ONE CONTESTANT EVEN SUBMITTED A BLANK CANVAS!

MY GUESS IS THAT OUR VISITORS WILL BE INVISIBLE IN OUR LIGHT!

Hammond News Syndicate

SOME DREW ANIMALS THAT COULD BE FOUND ONLY IN NIGHTMARES..

A COUPLE RANSACKED BOOKSTORES FOR SCIENCE-FICTION MAGAZINES...

IN ALL THE YEARS THEY'VE BEEN PRINTING SCIENCE STORIES, SOME ARTIST MUST HAVE STUMBLED ACROSS THE WAY THOSE ALIENS LOOK!

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS PHOTOGRAPH EVERY ILLUSTRATION EVER DRAWN-- DEVELOP THE PRINTS AND SUBMIT THEM! A BIG JOB, BUT FOR A MILLION DOLLARS, IT'S WORTH IT!

GUESSES RANGED FROM GIANT WARLIKE MEN AND WOMEN...

...TO TINY INTELLIGENT INSECTS...

We have come to help you

SOME USED THEIR IMAGINATIONS TO CREATE OCTOPI-LIKE BEINGS...

OTHERS CONJURED UP SOMETHING THAT LOOKED LIKE STICKS SET AT CRAZY ANGLES...

MECHANICAL MEN WERE ENVISIONED...

SKETCHES OF LIVING GLOBES OF ENERGY WERE RECEIVED...

THE MONTH PASSED SWIFTLY. OVER ONE HUNDRED MILLION ENTRIES WERE SUBMITTED! THE GREAT DAY CAME, AND WITH IT, THE ALIEN SPACESHIP...

HERE IT COMES!

THEY'RE PUTTING UP ANTENNAE!

WHY DON'T THEY COME OUT? WHAT ARE THEY WAITING FOR?

THE IMPATIENT CROWD SURGED CLOSER. GREAT METAL DOORS SWUNG OPEN--BUT NO ONE EMERGED!

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SPACE TRAVELERS? NOBODY'S INSIDE!

COME ON--LET'S GRAB SOME SOUVENIRS!

A RAGING TORRENT OF CURIOUS HUMANITY POURED INTO THE VAST SHIP! EAGER HANDS GRABBED EVERYTHING WITHIN SIGHT...

LOOK WHAT I GOT!

THIS METAL IS WARM! AND LISTEN--IT'S THROBBING!

THIN STREAMS OF LIQUID METAL RAN AS CLUTCHING FINGERS RIPPED AT WIRES AND CABLES...

WHY, IT'S ALMOST AS IF THE SPACESHIP WERE--*BLEEDING!*

LISTEN! THAT THROBBING IS STOPPING! AS IF A *HEART*--WERE *DYING!*

ONE MAN ALONE--MILES FROM THE SHIP--REALIZED THE TRUTH...

THE *FOOLS!* THE MURDERERS!

THE SHIP ITSELF WAS THE ALIEN BEING! IT WAS *LIVING METAL*--METAL THAT COULD SHAPE ITSELF INTO ANY FORM--EVEN THAT OF A SHIP CAPABLE OF TRAVELING THROUGH SPACE! THE LIQUID METAL WAS ITS LIFE *BLOOD!* THAT THROBBING WAS ITS METAL HEART THAT DIED AS THEY RIPPED OUT ITS WIRE AND CABLE *VEINS!*

"EXHAUSTED BY ITS LONG FLIGHT, IT COULD NOT STRUGGLE AS THE GREEDY HUMANS KILLED IT FOR THEIR SOUVENIRS! IT COULD NOT COMMUNICATE WITH THE PEOPLE WHO DESTROYED IT! IT DIED--ALONE AND FRIENDLESS--BILLIONS OF MILES FROM ITS HOME!"

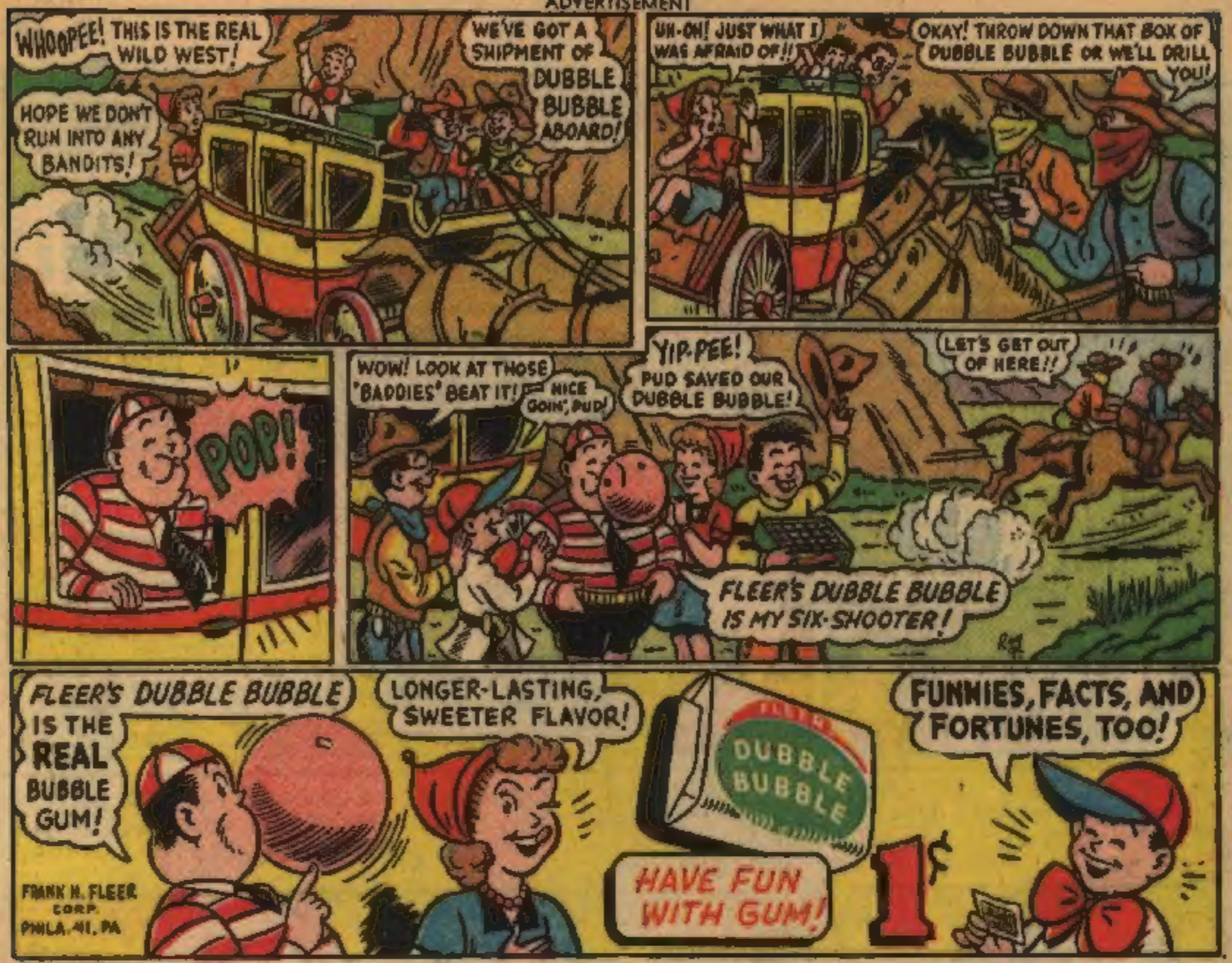
AND SO--NO ONE WON THE CONTEST! BUT WHAT OF THE MILLION DOLLARS OFFERED AS THE PRIZE? THE WORLD USED IT TO BUILD A MONUMENT...

MONUMENT ERECTED BY THE EARTH TO THE UNKNOWN SPACEMAN!

TO THE UNKNOWN SPACEMAN!

IT STANDS AS A MONUMENT TO THE GREED OF MEN, WHO IN THEIR HUNGER FOR SOUVENIRS, KILLED OUR FIRST SPACE VISITOR! BUT IT ALSO STANDS AS A WARNING TO MANKIND--SO THAT THE *NEXT* SPACEMAN WHO COMES TO EARTH WILL BE WELCOMED IN A DIFFERENT WAY--NO MATTER WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE!

THE END


WHOOPEE! THIS IS THE REAL WILD WEST!
WE'VE GOT A SHIPMENT OF DUBBLE BUBBLE ABOARD!
HOPE WE DON'T RUN INTO ANY BANDITS!
UH-OH! JUST WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF!!
OKAY! THROW DOWN THAT BOX OF DUBBLE BUBBLE OR WE'LL DRILL YOU!
POP!
WOW! LOOK AT THOSE "BADDIES" BEAT IT!
NICE GOIN', PUD!
YIP-PEE! PUD SAVED OUR DUBBLE BUBBLE!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!!
FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE IS MY SIX-SHOOTER!
FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE IS THE REAL BUBBLE GUM!
LONGER-LASTING, SWEETER FLAVOR!
DUBBLE BUBBLE
HAVE FUN WITH GUM!
1¢
FUNNIES, FACTS, AND FORTUNES, TOO!
FRANK H. FLEER CORP. PHILA., PA.

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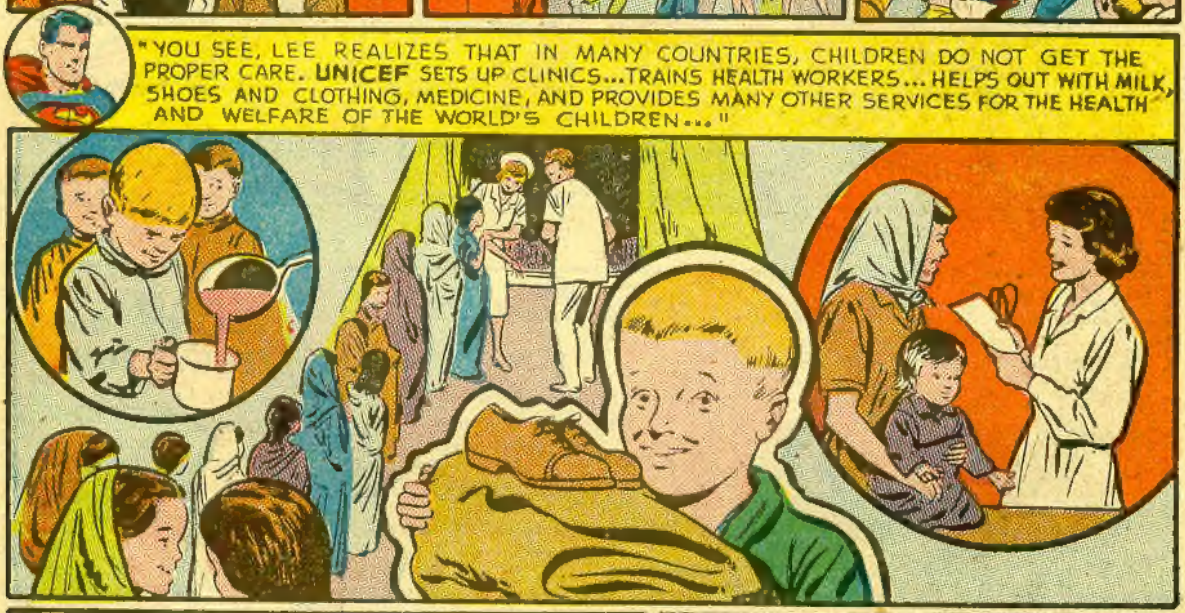
WONDER WOMAN
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

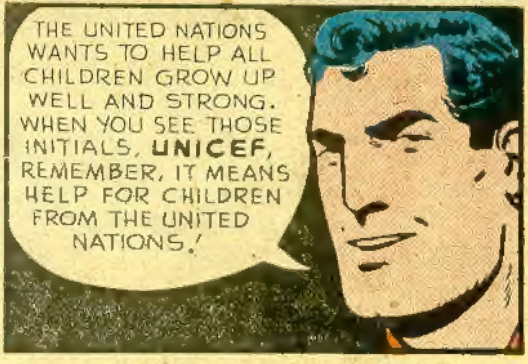
SUPERMAN shows how UNICEF SPELLS HELP FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD!

GOSH, WE SAW NEARLY EVERYTHING ON ALL 38 FLOORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS BUILDING. IT WAS WONDERFUL!
SURE, BUT LET'S GET GOING TO THAT MOVIE NOW!

I SAW HIM TALKING WITH A LADY FROM THE UNITED NATIONS. HE GAVE HIS MONEY TO UNICEF--THE ORGANIZATION THAT HELPS CHILDREN ALL OVER THE WORLD.


"YOU SEE, LEE REALIZES THAT IN MANY COUNTRIES, CHILDREN DO NOT GET THE PROPER CARE. UNICEF SETS UP CLINICS...TRAINS HEALTH WORKERS... HELPS OUT WITH MILK, SHOES AND CLOTHING, MEDICINE, AND PROVIDES MANY OTHER SERVICES FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN..."

WELL, IF LEE CAN DO WITHOUT THE MOVIE, I CAN, TOO. I'M GOING BACK AND GIVE MY MOVIE MONEY TO UNICEF.
ME, TOO! WE CAN ALL GO TO THE ZOO FOR NOTHING AND HAVE A GOOD TIME THERE!


THE UNITED NATIONS WANTS TO HELP ALL CHILDREN GROW UP WELL AND STRONG. WHEN YOU SEE THOSE INITIALS, UNICEF, REMEMBER, IT MEANS HELP FOR CHILDREN FROM THE UNITED NATIONS.

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH LEADING NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE AND YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS.

SOS IN SPACE!

VICTIMS OF OCEAN SHIPWRECKS CAN SURVIVE IN A LIFE-RAFT. AIRPLANE PASSENGERS CAN ESCAPE A DOOMED PLANE N A PARACHUTE. BUT WHAT ABOUT FUTURE VICTIMS OF SPACE-SHIP DISASTERS? HOW WILL THEY BE ABLE TO FLEE A STRICKEN INTER-PLANETARY LINER AND SURVIVE UNTIL HELP ARRIVES? HERE'S THE DRAMATIC SOLUTION!

ALL THOSE PEOPLE ARE THE VICTIMS OF INTERPLANETARY SHIPWRECKS! IF YOU MEN PROVE THAT THIS SPACE LIFE-BOAT WORKS--THOUSANDS OF LIVES WILL BE SAVED!

YES, BUT IF IT DOESN'T WORK-- WHAT HAPPENS TO US?

ONE DAY, IN A PRISON COMPOUND ON THE MOON, WHERE HARDENED, FOURTH-TERM CRIMINALS SERVE OUT THEIR LIFE SENTENCES...

I SURE WOULD LIKE TO GET BACK ON EARTH -- EVEN FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS!

FORGET IT! WE'LL GROW OLD ON THIS DEAD WORLD -- UNTIL WE'RE DEAD, TOO!

JUST THEN...

LOOK, MARTIN -- HERE COMES A SPACE-SHIP!

DON'T GET EXCITED -- PROBABLY JUST BRINGING SUPPLIES IN!

MYSTERY IN SPACE

BUT HOPE STIRS IN THE HEARTS OF THE CRIMINALS, AS CAPTAIN TYNDALL OF TRANS-PLANET SPACE-LINES SURFACES HIS CRAFT...

I HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED TO OFFER TWO PRISONERS FULL PARDONS IF THEY WILL AGREE TO UNDERTAKE A HIGHLY DANGEROUS MISSION! ANY VOLUNTEERS?

HOW ABOUT US, CAPTAIN? WHAT'S YOUR PROPOSITION?

WE'VE BEEN LOSING QUITE A NUMBER OF SPACE-SHIPS ON THE NEW EARTH—VENUS RUN." WELL, WE EXPECT THAT SORT OF THING ON A NEW COURSE, BUT WHAT WORRIES US IS--THE SURVIVORS! I--I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENS TO THEM...

AIR LOCK NO. 2 PRISONERS

GUARD

"FOR THEM, IT'S LIKE A LIVING DEATH--SUSPENDED IN THE COLD VOID IN THEIR SPACE-SUITS--JUST WAITING TO DIE..."

THEREFORE, WE HAVE PERFECTED A SPACE-LIFEBOAT. IF YOU'RE WILLING TO PUT IT THROUGH A 30-DAY FLIGHT TEST IN THE AREA ABOUT VENUS, YOU'LL BOTH RECEIVE FULL PARDONS!

AND TAKE THE CHANCE OF BEING MAROONED IN SPACE OURSELVES? NOTHING DOING!

WAIT A MINUTE! YOU FOOL, WE'RE MAROONED IN SPACE RIGHT NOW! WHAT'VE WE GOT TO LOSE?

THAT'S RIGHT, TOO! OKAY, WE'LL DO IT, CAPTAIN!

FINE! I'LL MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR THE FLIGHT TEST AT ONCE!

ACCORDINGLY, DAYS LATER, IN THE OUTER-SPACE SURROUNDING VENUS, AN ATOM-POWERED SPACE-SHIP PAUSES IN MID-FLIGHT AND...

THIS IS IT, MEN! IT'S BEEN FITTED WITH NUMEROUS DEVICES DESIGNED TO KEEP YOU ALIVE FOR A MONTH, AT THE END OF WHICH TIME WE'LL PICK YOU UP!

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH! WHERE'RE WE GONNA STICK A FULL MONTH'S SUPPLY OF FOOD IN THIS LITTLE LIFEBOAT?

MYSTERY IN SPACE

WE THOUGHT OF THAT,' BY OPENING THE INTAKE VALVE OF THIS PROCESSOR MACHINE, MAKING SURE THE VENT IS OPEN TO RECEIVE THE SUN'S RAYS, FOOD-PELLETS WILL BE CONVERTED FROM SOLAR ENERGY.'

LET ME TRY IT.'

THEY'RE NOT BAD--NOT BAD AT ALL.'

WHAT'S THE GUN FOR, TYNDALL? YOU AIN'T EXPECTING ANYONE TO ATTACK US, ARE YOU?

THIS IS A FLARE GUN, BLAKE.' IF YOU SHOULD RUN INTO ANY TROUBLE, PRESS THE TRIGGER, LIKE THIS, AND...

AS YOU CAN SEE, IT RELEASES A RAINBOW OF SHOOTING STARS.' THERE'S NOTHING ELSE LIKE IT IN SPACE, SO WE'LL INSTANTLY RECOGNIZE IT AS AN SOS SIGNAL FROM YOU.'

ER--WHAT ABOUT METEORS? THERE'S NO STEERING MECHANISM IN THE LIFEBOAT THE WAY THERE IS IN YOUR SPACE-SHIP.' HOW DO WE KEEP OUT OF THE WAY OF 'EM?

YOU WON'T HAVE TO...

OH, NO? HERE COMES ONE NOW.' LET ME OUT OF HERE.'

DON'T WORRY.'

AND TO THEIR UTTER AMAZEMENT...

B-BUT-- I --I, WAS SURE IT WAS GOING TO SMACK US! W-WHAT HAPPENED?

NOTICE THIS NETWORK OF WIRES AROUND THE LIFEBOAT? IT SETS UP A POWERFUL ANTI-MAGNETIC FIELD, WITH SUFFICIENT FORCE TO REPEL CELESTIAL BODIES MANY TIMES THE MASS OF THE BOAT ITSELF.'

MYSTERY IN SPACE

FINALLY...

'T'S A CINCH.' CUT US LOOSE! AND DON'T FORGET, TYNDALL-- WHEN YOU PICK US UP AT THE END OF 30 DAYS, MAKE SURE YOU'VE GOT THOSE PARDONS WITH YOU.'

THAT'S THE AGREEMENT.' GOOD LUCK, BLAKE.' GOOD LUCK, MARTIN.'

A LEVER IS PULLED AND THE CONNECTING RODS ARE DRAWN IN,-AS THE FIRST SPACE LIFEBOAT DRIFTS OFF...

NOTE THE EXACT LOCATION, DEERING--AND ALLOW FOR DRIFT WITHIN A 1000-MILE RADIUS.'

YES, SIR.'

MEANWHILE, THE TWO CONVICTS PREPARE FOR THEIR MONTH-LONG ORDEAL...

THIS AIN'T SO HARD TO TAKE, MARTIN! OPEN THAT DOOR AND LET SOME FRESH AIR IN HERE.'

YOU SAID IT--JUST ONE MONTH OF THIS, AND WE'LL BE FREE--FREE TO REJOIN OUR OLD GANG.' BOY.' THEY'LL SURE BE SURPRISED TO SEE US, HUH?

N THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOW, CAPT. TYNDALL MAKES PERIODIC MARKINGS OF THE LIFE-BOAT'S AIMLESS, WANDERINGS THROUGH SPACE ...

DRIFT 348 MILES IN DIRECTION OF SATURN... COSMIC STORMS VIOLENT TO THE NORTH AND SOUTH... COMET INCIDENCE MINOR...

UNTIL, FINALLY...

EIGHT DAYS SHORT OF THE 30-DAY PERIOD, CAPTAIN.'

YES, IF WE START NOW, WE SHOULD ARRIVE IN THE MORNING OF THE FINAL DAY.' MAKE CERTAIN YOU BRING THOSE PARDONS ALONG, DEERING--THEY'VE EARNED THEM.'

SOON AFTER...

THERE THEY ARE.' LOWER THE RODS AND LADDER.'

I'LL TAKE THEIR PARDONS DOWN TO THEM.' THIS IS A BIG DAY IN THE HISTORY OF SPACE TRAVEL, CAPTAIN.'

MYSTERY IN SPACE

THEN... LOOK CAPTAIN-- THEY LEFT THE DOME OPEN! THE FOOLS. THEY RISKED THE SUCCESS OF THE WHOLE EXPERIMENT. BLAKE! MARTIN! COME OUT-- WE'RE HERE!

BUT, JUST AS THE SPACE TRAVELERS ARE ABOUT TO DESCEND INTO THE LIFEBOAT...

BY JUPITER, TYNDALL-- L-LOOK-- INSIDE THE LIFEBOAT!

OH, NO--!

AS THE STUNNED SPACE MEN STARE INCREDULOUSLY...

SUDDENLY...

TYNDALL--RAYS FROM ONE OF THOSE MONSTER'S EYES--THEY'RE DESTROYING OUR HELMETS!

YES, AND THEY'LL DESTROY US, TOO, IF I DON'T GET THIS DOME CLOSED IN. TIME AND LOCKED ON THE OUTSIDE!

SO--THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED TO MARTIN AND BLAKE! BUT WHAT ARE THOSE MONSTERS? WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

THEY'RE LIKE NOTHING I'VE EVER SEEN IN 20 YEARS OF SPACE TRAVEL! IMAGINE--EYES THAT CAST DESTROYING RAYS!

JUST THEN, A NEW PERIL SUDDENLY THREATENS ...

CAPTAIN, THE COSMOGRAPH--IT'S GOING MAD!

YES, AND THAT'S WHAT'S DOING IT--A HEAVY COSMIC STORM OFF THE PORT BOW! YOU CAN SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THOSE METEORS PASSING THROUGH ITS CENTER! IT'S TURNED THEM GREEN!

WE'D BETTER GET INSIDE-- BEFORE WE'RE CAUGHT UP IN IT!

BUT WHAT ABOUT THOSE TWO MONSTERS WHO DESTROYED MARTIN AND BLAKE? ARE WE GOING TO LET THEM GET AWAY WITH IT?

DEERING, I HAVE NEWS FOR YOU--THOSE MONSTERS *ARE* MARTIN AND BLAKE!

YOU MEAN--?

EXACTLY.' YOU KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT COSMIC RAYS SPEED UP THE PROCESS OF EVOLUTION.' THOSE MEN AGED 30,000 YEARS IN 30 DAYS.' NO DOUBT, THEY EXPOSED THEMSELVES TO THE COSMIC STORM WHEN THEY LEFT THE DOME OPEN.'

I--I RECALL NOW-- THEY WORE MARTIN'S AND BLAKE'S IDENTIFICATION DISCS AROUND THEIR NECKS... B-BUT, CAPTAIN...

ARE YOU SAYING THAT-- IN 30,000 YEARS, THE HUMAN RACE WILL RESEMBLE THOSE MONSTERS?

I--I'M NOT SURE, DEERING! REMEMBER MARTIN AND BLAKE WERE CRIMINALS! THE SPEEDED-UP EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS THAT AGED THEM 30,000 YEARS IN 30 DAYS ALSO MAGNIFIED THE EVIL IN THEIR HEARTS, TURNING THEM INTO MONSTERS!

AND AS THE SPACE-SHIP CASTS OFF FROM THE LIFEBOAT...

I--CAN'T BELIEVE THAT SUCH A FATE IS IN STORE FOR THE GOOD AND DECENT MEN OF EARTH, AS WELL!... BUT--IT IS SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT, MY FRIEND.'

The END

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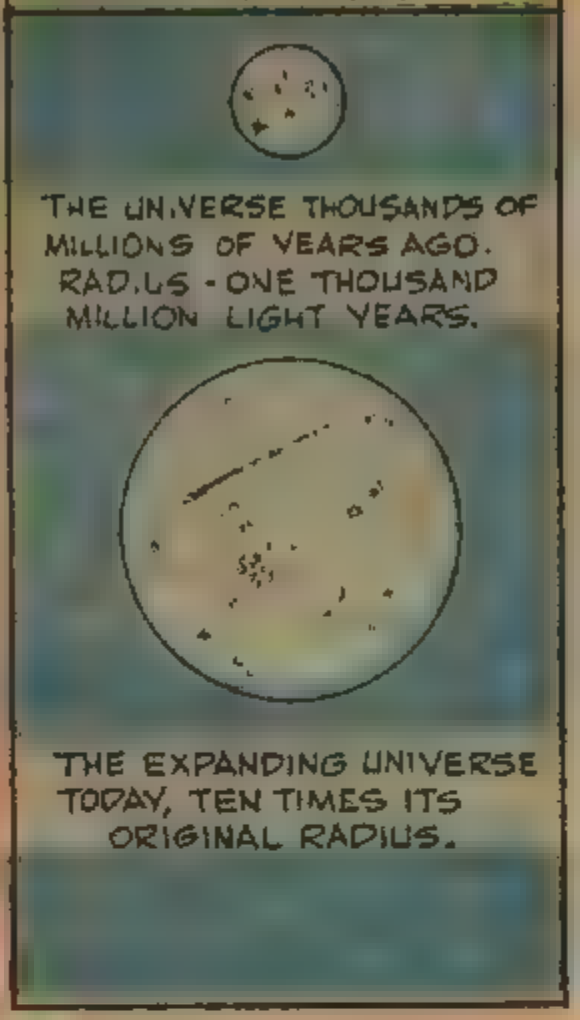
A ROADMASTER BICYCLE... AND OTHER DANDY PRIZES... ARE GIVEN AWAY EVERY WEEK!

The EXPANDING UNIVERSE

ACCORDING TO A THEORY BY PROF. EDDINGTON, SPACE IS EXPANDING LIKE A RUBBER BALLOON THAT IS STEADILY INFLATED, SO THAT CELESTIAL OBJECTS ARE MOVING FARTHER AND FARTHER APART FROM EACH OTHER...

SINCE THE UNIVERSE BEGAN EXPANDING THOUSANDS OF MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO, IT IS BELIEVED TO HAVE INCREASED TEN TIMES ITS ORIGINAL RADIUS...


THE UNIVERSE THOUSANDS OF MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO. RADIUS - ONE THOUSAND MILLION LIGHT YEARS.
THE EXPANDING UNIVERSE TODAY, TEN TIMES ITS ORIGINAL RADIUS.

IT IS PROBABLE THAT SPACE IS INCREASING FASTER THAN THE VELOCITY OF LIGHT. ODDLY ENOUGH, SOME OF THE NEBULAE WE SEE IN THE HEAVENS ARE PROBABLY SEEN FROM THE *BACK* BY LIGHT WHICH HAS CIRCLED THE [illegible] ...

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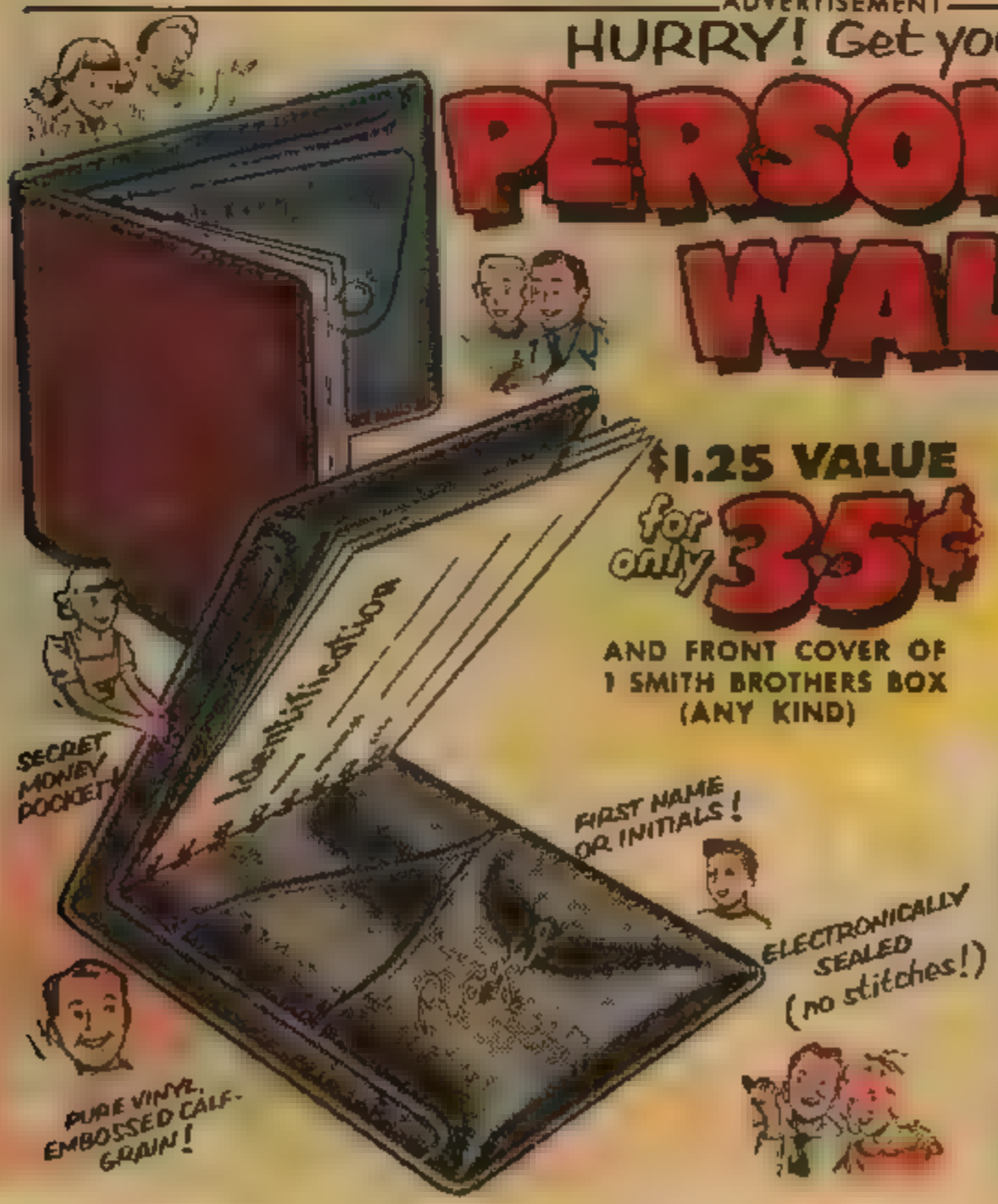

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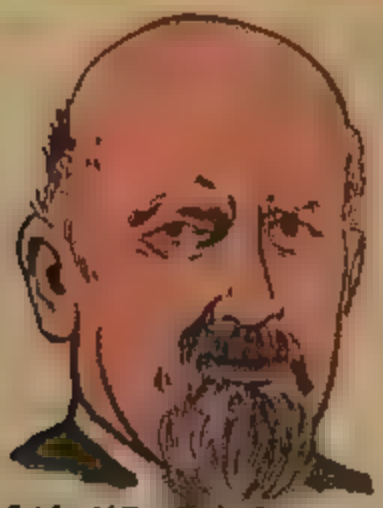
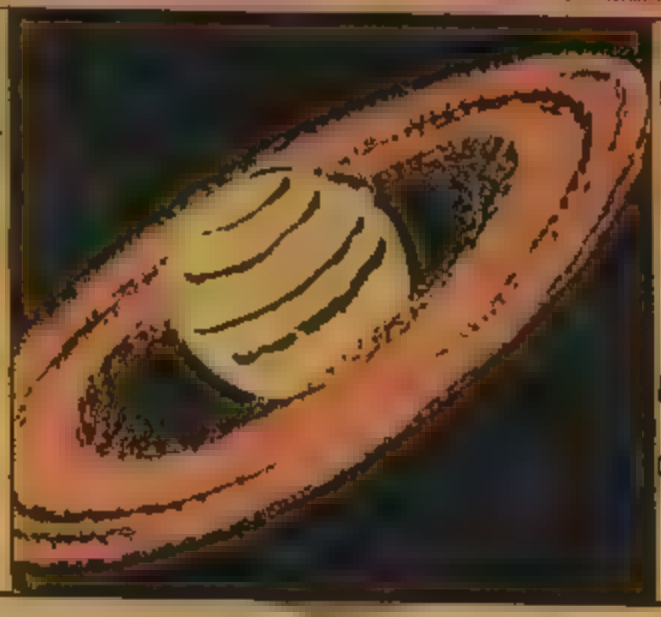
GIANTS of the TELESCOPE



WILLIAM HENRY PICKERING
(1858-1938)

THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF ASTRONOMICAL PHOTOGRAPHY, PICKERING DISCOVERED ***PHOEBE***, THE NINTH SATELLITE OF SATURN, IN 1898...



IN 1905, PICKERING REPORTED THE DISCOVERY OF A TENTH MOON-- ***THEMIS***-- BUT HIS DISCOVERY WAS UNCONFIRMED FOR SEVERAL YEARS...

IN 1919, PICKERING INDICATED WHERE IN SPACE A NINTH PLANET MIGHT BE FOUND, BUT HE WAS DENIED SUCCESS AS THE DISCOVERER OF ***PLUTO*** (1930) BECAUSE OF A FLAW IN THE PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATE...

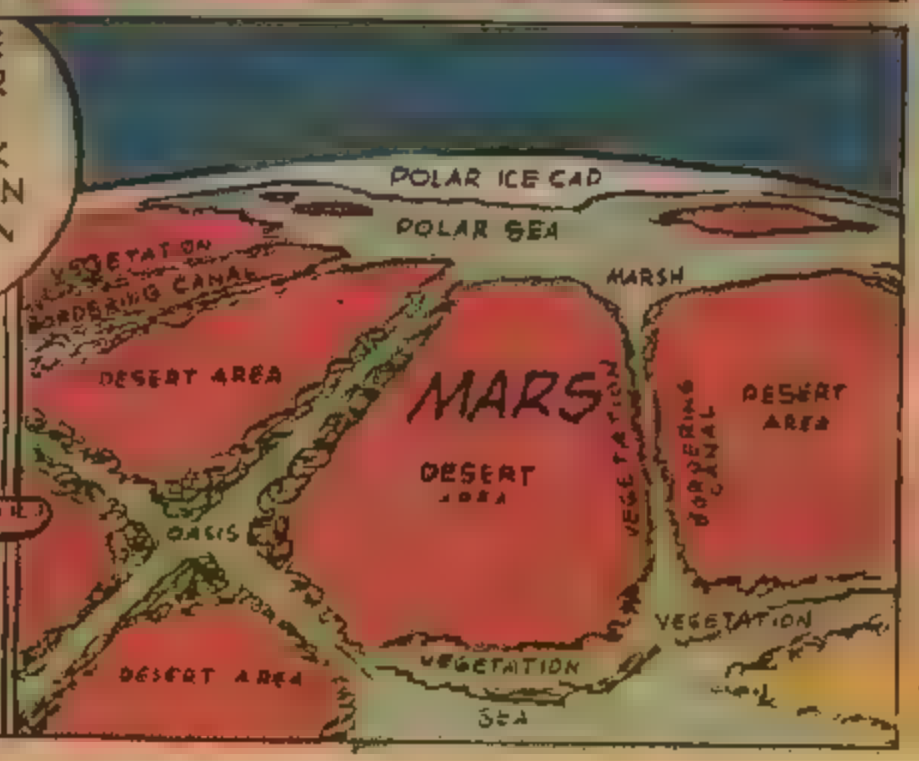
I'M SURE A NINTH PLANET REVOLVES BEYOND NEPTUNE, BUT THESE REPORTS FROM ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORIES HAVE FAILED TO CONFIRM IT.

IN THE EARLY 900'S, HE LED EXPEDITIONS TO HAWAII AND THE AZORES TO COMPARE THEIR CRATER FORMATIONS WITH THOSE SEEN ON THE MOON...

THE SIMILARITY OF THESE CRATERS ON HAWAII TO THE MOON'S, INDICATE THEY MAY BOTH HAVE BEEN FORMED BY VOLCANIC ACTION!

FROM HIS OBSERVATORY ON JAMAICA, BRITISH WEST INDIES, WHERE HE DEVOTED HIS STUDIES TO MARS, PICKERING ANNOUNCED HIS BELIEF THAT THE MARTIAN "CANALS" WERE REALLY STRIPS OF VEGETATION CROSSING DESERT REGIONS...

JUST AS THE VALLEY OF THE NILE RIVER WOULD APPEAR TO AN OBSERVER ON THE MOON AS A GREEN STREAK ACROSS THE YELLOW AFRICAN DESERT, SO DO THE MARTIAN CANALS APPEAR TO US HERE ON EARTH!



FROM DEEP IN THE VOID OF OUTER SPACE SPED EIGHT WINGED INVITATIONS TO THE PLANETS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM--TO THE COLD CLIMES OF PLUTO, TO THE STEAMY SURFACES OF MERCURY--AND EVEN EARTH WAS URGED TO SEND ITS PROUDEST POSSESSION TO BE BURIED FOR A MILLION YEARS IN THE FIRST...

COSMIC CAPSULE!

PLUTO HAS SENT MODELS OF THE SMALL SUN IT USES TO HEAT ITS FRIGID ATMOSPHERE--SATURN HAS SENT REPLICAS OF ITS RINGS--AND MERCURY HAS SENT MINIATURE MODELS OF THE POLES THAT AIR-CONDITION ITS ATMOSPHERE! WHAT, GENTLEMEN, WILL EARTH SEND?

ON A MIDWESTERN STATE, A STRANGE OBJECT SILENTLY SETTLES DOWN IN A CLEARING..

IS IT A FLYING SAUCER?

IT COULD BE A DEADLY BOMB OF SOME KIND!

THOSE SCIENTISTS WILL SOON FIND OUT!

BUT WHEN THE SCIENTISTS SUCCEED IN PRYING OPEN THE VISITOR FROM SPACE...

IT'S EMPTY!

NOT QUITE! THERE'S A MESSAGE IN A STRANGE LANGUAGE!

MYSTERY IN SPACE

AFTER MANY WEEKS OF UNCEASING WORK BY THE NATION'S TOP LINGUISTS...

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, GENTLEMEN, IT IS A LETTER FROM MARS INVITING US, AND ALL THE OTHER PLANETS IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, TO CONTRIBUTE OUR PROUDEST POSSESSION TO A COSMIC CAPSULE!

WONDERFUL IDEA! BUT WHAT WILL OURS BE?

THAT, MY FRIEND, IS FOR ALL THE PEOPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS ON EARTH TO DECIDE!

IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOW, SUGGESTIONS POUR IN FROM ALL POINTS, AS THE IDEA CAPTURES THE IMAGINATION OF ALL EARTHMEN...

MMM--A FLOWING MODEL OF NIAGARA FALLS--A VOLCANO IN ACTION--VERY IMPRESSIVE PHENOMENA OF LIFE ON EARTH, GENTLEMEN, BUT HARDLY OUR PROUDEST POSSESSIONS!

HOW ABOUT THAT MODEL OF AN ATOMIC EXPLOSION?

NO, NO--WE MUST SEND THEM SOMETHING THAT HAS ENABLED US TO ACHIEVE OUR PRESENT HIGH ORDER OF CIVILIZATION!

AND WHAT WOULD THAT BE?

THE WHEEL! FOR WITHOUT THE WHEEL WE WOULD HAVE REMAINED CAVE MEN!

YOU'RE RIGHT, JENSEN!

ACCORDINGLY, MONTHS LATER, A PANORAMIC EXHIBIT OF THE WHEEL IS COMPLETED FOR THE COSMIC CAPSULE..

MYSTERY IN SPACE

BUT WITH THE WHEEL EXHIBIT SAFELY INSTALLED, A NEW PROBLEM SUDDENLY ARISES...

WAIT A MINUTE! I CAN'T FLY THIS BLASTED SHIP-- THESE CONTROLS REQUIRE A MAN WITH PERFECT REFLEXES!

THAT'S NOT ALL, JENSEN-- YOUR HEART COULD NEVER STAND THE PRESSURES BUILT UP IN THIS CABIN! I'M AFRAID WE'LL NEED A PRETTY--*ER*-- FLAWLESS MAN FOR THE JOB!

THUS, IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, THE SEARCH INTENSIFIES FOR THE PERFECT SPECIMEN...

SORRY! YOU'RE THE MOST PERFECT SPECIMEN WE'VE HAD SO FAR, BUT THE DRY CONDITION OF YOUR SKIN MAY LEAD TO COMPLICATIONS IN THE COLD OF SPACE! WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES! NEXT!

UNTIL, FINALLY...

AT LONG LAST--PAUL MARKO, A MAN WHO MEASURES UP TO THE ABSOLUTE STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE IN EVERY RESPECT!

FOR A WHILE I THOUGHT WE'D NEVER GET THIS CRATE OFF THE GROUND!

AT LENGTH, THE FATEFUL DAY ARRIVES, AS...

BEST OF LUCK!

REGARDS TO THE MARTIANS!

WHOOSH!

UP AND OUT INTO SPACE SPEEDS THE SHIP, AS ITS COURSE IS FOLLOWED BY WATCHFUL EYES...

IN SECONDS IT WILL BE OUT OF SIGHT!

THE SHIP IS HOLDING STEADY AND HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION!

THE EXCITEMENT ABATES, BUT IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOW, AN UNEASINESS GRIPS THE SCIENTISTS SPONSORING THE HISTORIC EVENT...

THEY PROMISED TO SEND US A PICTURE OF THE ***COSMIC CAPSULE***, CONTAINING THE EXHIBITS OF ALL THE PLANETS! BUT WHERE IS OUR MAN MARKO AND THE SPACE-SHIP? IT'S LONG OVERDUE!

THEN SUDDENLY, ON THE MORNING OF THE 32ND DAY...

IT'S HERE!

CLEAR THE LANDINGS! IT'LL BE DOWN IN SECONDS!

I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE MARKO AND THAT PICTURE!

MYSTERY IN SPACE

BUT WHEN THE SHIP IS ONCE AGAIN PRIED OPEN ...

WHAT HAPPENED TO MARKO? WHY DIDN'T HE RETURN? HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BRING US A PICTURE OF THE *COSMIC CAPSULE!*

IT'S EMPTY!

WAIT! THERE'S THE PICTURE!

I--I DON'T GET THIS! LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT IT!

AND AS THE SCIENTISTS GAZE AT THE GLOSSY PHOTOGRAPH ...

LOOK! IT'S THE INTERIOR OF THE *COSMIC CAPSULE!*

YES, AND ON EACH PEDESTAL IS A MAN FROM THE PLANET OF HIS BIRTH!

T-THEN--YOU--MEAN--?

YES, MY FRIENDS, WE WERE TRICKED! WHAT THE MARTIANS REALLY WANTED FOR THEIR COSMIC CAPSULE WERE PERFECT HUMAN SPECIMENS--AND THEY BUILT THEIR SPACE-SHIPS SO THAT ONLY ABSOLUTELY PERFECT MEN COULD OPERATE THEM!

The End

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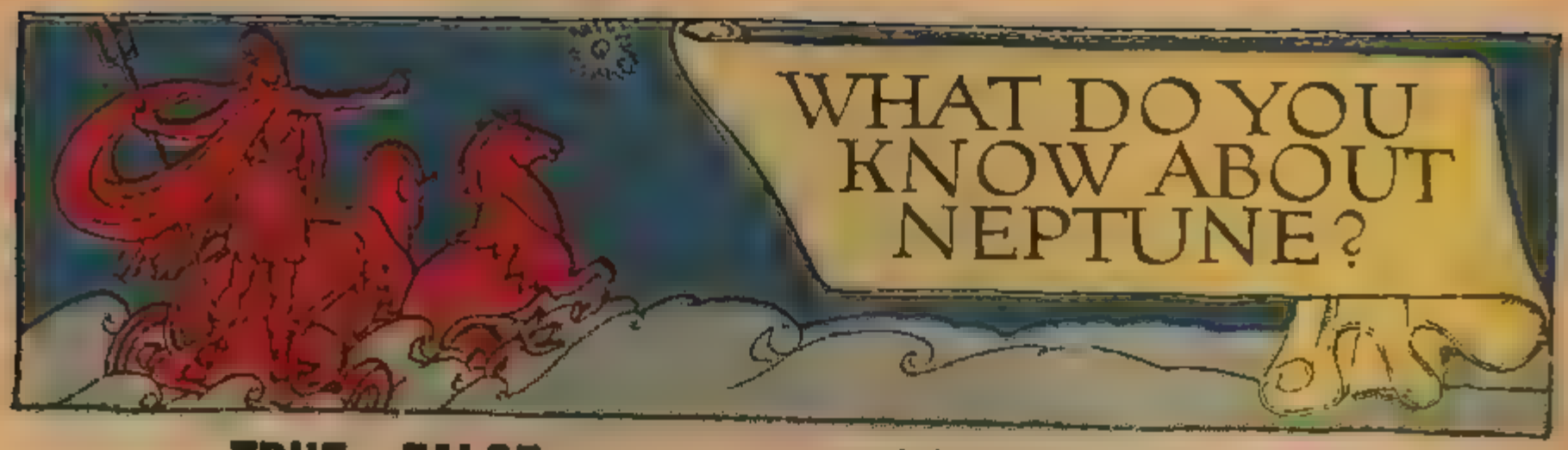


TRUE - FALSE

(Below are 10 astronomical "facts" concerning the planet Neptune. Select the ones that are completely correct and answer *true*. If you spot one that is all or partly erroneous, answer *false*. For each number correctly answered, credit yourself with 4 points.)

1. Unlike its planetary neighbor Uranus, Neptune has no atmosphere at all.

2. Like Earth, Neptune shows a markedly green color when viewed through a telescope.

3. Temperature conditions are so extreme on the planet Neptune that laboratory techniques can duplicate them only on a small scale.

4. Neptune is so far away from the Earth that the size and brightness of its apparent disc is reduced to such an extent that spectrograms of the planet are difficult to obtain.

5. In the last century, the French astronomer Leverrier concluded that deviations in the orbit of Saturn were due to an unknown massive planet beyond Saturn.

6. After Leverrier calculated the position of the hypothetical planet, he sent his prediction to the German astronomer Galle, who discovered the planet a half hour after he received Leverrier's figures.

7. Strangely enough, John Couch Adams, the English astronomer, while working independently had arrived at Leverrier's same result by using an entirely different method.

8. When a planet—like Neptune—has at least one satellite, it becomes a comparatively simple task to calculate the mass of the planet.

9. Pluto—the only planet beyond Neptune—is so small that it has no effect upon Neptune's motion.

10. At certain points of its orbit, Neptune is more distant from the sun than is Pluto.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

(Herewith are presented 10 more facts about Neptune. However, only one of a trio of statements is correct. Make your choice and take 2 points for each alternate correctly answered.)

1. The rotation period of Neptune can be determined only by indirect methods because of the absence of (a) any moons, (b) surface markings, (c) an atmosphere.

2. Before its discovery as a planet, Neptune was thought to be a (a) comet, (b) asteroid, (c) star.

3. Since its discovery in the last century, Neptune has gone through only six-tenths of a revolution about the sun. It will have completed one revolution in the year (a) 1961, (b) 1981, (c) 2011.

4. Neptune receives about (a) 1/90, (b) 1/900, (c) 1/9000 as much heat and light from the sun as does the Earth.

5. The light from the sun takes (a) 4 hours, (b) 4 days, (c) 4 weeks to reach Neptune.

6. If Neptune were (a) 2, (b) 5, (c) 20 times brighter it would be just at the limit of naked-eye visibility from Earth.

7. Neptune has (a) 1, (b) 2, (c) 3 satellites revolving about it.

8. Only one of Neptune's satellites, (a) Triton, (b) Titan, (c) Titania, is larger in size than the Earth's moon.

9. The distinctive markings in Saturn's spectrum are of (a) carbon dioxide, (b) ammonia, (c) methane.

10. The surface markings of Neptune (a) are similar to those of Mars, (b) show a mountainous terrain, (c) haven't as yet been detected.

MISSING WORD

(Supply the missing word that will complete the following statements about Neptune. Each word correctly given is worth 5 points.)

1. The planets Neptune and..... form a "pair of twins," being remarkably alike in size, mass, density, and many other characteristics.

2. The intensity of sunlight at Neptune's surface is 520 times that of full..... on the Earth.

3. Nereid, the latest of Neptune's satellites to be discovered, was found in the year.....

4. The discovery of Neptune is regarded as one of the greatest successes of ..... theory of gravitation.

5. With small telescopes, Neptune can be distinguished from the stars by observing its changes in..... from night to night.

MATCHING COLUMNS

(In the first column are five astronomical distances pertaining to Neptune. In column two are listed their "equivalents," but in incorrect order. Tag the right number to the right distance and take 3 points for each of the correctly joined terms.)

1. 31,000 miles	A. Distance from Neptune to its largest moon
2. 3,000 miles	B. Closest approach of Neptune to sun
3. 2,769,000 miles	C. Mean distance between Neptune and Earth
4. 220,000 miles	D. Diameter of Neptune
5. 2,700,000 miles	E. Diameter of Neptune's largest moon

Answers

True-False: 1, false. (Its atmosphere is composed of methane gas.) 2. true. 3, true. 4, true. 5, false. (The deviations were caused in Uranus' orbit.) 6, true. 7, true. 8, true. 9, false. 10. true.

Multiple Choice: 1, b. 2, c. 3, c. 4, b. 5, a. 6, b. 7, b. 8, a. 9, c. 10, c.

Missing Word: 1, Uranus. 2, moonlight. 3, 1949. 4, Newton's. 5, position.

Matching Columns: 1, D. 2, E. 3, B. 4, A. 5, C.

RATINGS

90 to 100—You're as bright as a super-nova!

75 to 90—You're as bright as Sirius!

60 to 75—You're as bright as the full moon!

0 to 60—You're as bright as the sun during a total eclipse!

ROCKETEER FOR HIRE!

WHEN YOU PILOT A BATTLEROCKET IN SPACE-WAR, THE EXCITEMENT GETS UNDER YOUR SKIN! AFTERWARD, IN PEACE-TIME, IT'S HARD TO STAY ON AN ORDINARY JOB... AND AN ENERGETIC YOUNG EARTH PILOT LIKE SLAG SORREL IS LIKELY TO ROAM THE GALAXY LOOKING FOR ANOTHER WAR--- *ANY WAR*--- IN WHICH TO EXERCISE HIS UNIQUE TALENTS!

SIDE-SWIPING A ROCKET'S NOSE-BUBBLE IS AN OLD SPACE-NAVY TRICK--BUT IT TAKES A REAL BATTLEROCKET PILOT TO DO IT--LIKE *ME*--- SLAG SORREL!

MYSTERY IN SPACE

I'M SLAG SORREL! THERE'S BEEN A LOT WRITTEN ABOUT ME LATELY IN THE *INTER-GALACTIC PRESS*-- BUT NO ONE KNOWS THE REAL STORY-- NO ONE BUT ME! I'M TELLING *YOU* THE WHOLE STORY-- BUT YOU MUST PROMISE TO KEEP IT SECRET TILL I GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO TELL IT! OKAY? HERE GOES...

"IT BEGAN THE DAY THE *FOUR PLANET WAR* ENDED--AND MY BUDDY GILL GANT AND I WERE OUT OF JOBS..."

WE'RE BATTLEROCKET PILOTS, GILL--BUT THEY DON'T USE *B-R'S* IN PEACETIME! WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?

THE COUNCIL IS GIVING PSYCH-EXAMS, SLAG...

PROCES STATION

...TO FIND OUT WHAT ELSE WE MACH-10 BOYS ARE FITTED FOR! I'M TAKING THEM-- WHY DON'T YOU?

MIGHT AS WELL TRY IT, I GUESS...

OCCUPATIONAL TESTING

"I WALKED INTO THE TESTING BUILDING WITH GILL... BUT I WASN'T TOO HAPPY ABOUT IT..."

THEY WON'T PUT *ME* AT ANY DESK--OR BEHIND THE STICK OF A BANANA FREIGHTER TO VENUS! I'D BLOW MY TOP-JETS IN ONE WEEK AT JOBS LIKE THAT! I'M A *B-R* PILOT-- THE BEST THERE IS!

"IN THE PSYCH-EXAM ROOM, THEY WHEELED A HYPNO-MACHINE IN FRONT OF ME..."

PUTTING ME TO SLEEP, DOC?

THIS WAY WE'LL FIND OUT *ALL ABOUT YOU* IN AN HOUR, SORREL! RELAX-- LOOK INTO THE HYPNO-GLOBE!

"IT SEEMED THEY DIDN'T LIKE WHAT THEY FOUND... BECAUSE AN HOUR LATER WHEN I AWOKE..."

SORRY, SORREL! BUT YOU'RE NOT SUITED FOR *ANY* JOB ON OUR LIST!

DON'T SHED ANY TEARS, DOC--I'M NOT!

MYSTERY IN SPACE

"I KNEW THEN WHAT I WAS GOING TO DO... BUT FIRST I HAD TO SEE SOMEONE..."

YOU'RE LEAVING EARTH? BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WHEN WILL YOU COME BACK?

I DON'T KNOW, CORAL...

BETTER FORGET ME--- AND OUR MARRIAGE PLANS! FIND SOMEONE ELSE--WHO ISN'T AN EX-ROCKET PILOT!

THERE WON'T EVER BE ANY-ONE ELSE, SLAG!

"MY MUSTERING-OUT PAY BOUGHT A TRIP OUT OF THE GALAXY..."

TO *HAGAR*-WAY? BUT THAT'S THE FURTHEST CIVILIZED WORLD KNOWN!

THE FURTHER THE BETTER, MISTER!

"I COULDN'T EXPLAIN TO CORAL WHY I HAD TO SPACE IT! DURING THE JOURNEY, I TRIED TO FIGURE IT OUT MYSELF..."

...I'LL NEVER BE HAPPY UNTIL I FEEL A BATTLEROCKET UNDER ME AGAIN! SPACE-WAR'S IN MY BLOOD--IN MY BRAIN! IT'S MY WHOLE LIFE!

"MY MONEY DIDN'T LAST LONG ON *HAGAR*-WAY...AND SOON I WAS REDUCED TO ACCEPTING HANDOUTS FROM FELLOW-EARTHMEN..."

BUY YOURSELF A MEAL-- AND A SHAVE, MISTER! YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO TERRA!

UH-- THANKS!

"WITH THE GOLD **SOL** CLENCHED IN MY FIST, I HEADED...AS USUAL... FOR MY FAVORITE HAUNT..."

I'LL RUN THIS $5 UP TO A THOUSAND--TEN THOUSAND! THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY--I FEEL IT!

HAGAR GAMING CLUB.

"AT FIRST MY HUNCH SEEMED A GOOD ONE..."

AT THIS RATE I'LL SOON BE *RICH!* I'LL BE ABLE TO BUY A SPACE-YACHT AND GO HOME AND MARRY CORAL!

"RIDING MY LUCK, I BET ALL OF MY CHIPS ON AN EVEN NUMBER--BUT..."

YOU LOSE, SIR!

I--I'M BUSTED--CLEANED--NOT A CENT LEFT!

"A WORSE DISAPPOINTMENT FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY..."

SPACEGRAM FOR MR. SORREL!

IT MUST BE FROM CORAL! NO ONE ELSE KNOWS I'M OUT HERE--

AND... SHE SAID THERE NEVER WOULD BE ANY-ONE ELSE!

SPACEGRAM

GOODBY SLAG, I'M MARRYING ANOTHER MAN TODAY,

CORAL

"I HAD NOTHING MORE TO LIVE FOR! GRIMLY, I WENT TO THE *HAGAR* SPACEWAY AND SNEAKED BEHIND AN OUTGOING FREIGHTER..."

THIS ISN'T THE EASIEST WAY TO DIE... BUT IT'S QUICK! WHEN THESE JETS BLAST THAT FREIGHTER OFF--I--I'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT HIT ME...

"BUT SUDDENLY..."

PULL HIM AWAY!

HEY! WHAT BREAKS HERE?

"I NEVER DID LIKE GETTING MANHANDLED--ESPECIALLY BY *HAGARIANS*..."

GET YOUR CLAWS OFF ME!

SEIZE HIM--BUT DON'T HURT HIM!

I'M GIVING AWAY TOO MUCH WEIGHT... EVEN AGAINST *HAGARIANS!*

"I CONKED OUT THEN... AND WHEN I CAME TO..."

YOU'RE A FOOL, SORREL! WHY TRY TO DO AWAY WITH YOURSELF? JUST BECAUSE YOUR LUCK TURNED BAD--AND YOUR GIRL SENT YOU A CRUEL MESSAGE?

HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT?

"I LEARNED A FEW THINGS THEN... ABOUT *HAGARIAN* TRICKS..."

HA, HA! BECAUSE *WE* SENT THAT SPACEGRAM--TO TEST YOU! JUST AS WE ARRANGED FOR YOU TO LOSE AT THE GAMING TABLES!

YOU? B-BUT--?

"THEY WOULDN'T ANSWER ANY OF MY QUESTIONS! INSTEAD, THEY TOOK ME FOR A RIDE OUTSIDE THE CITY..."

BATTLEROCKETS! A FLEET OF THEM!

THEY'RE *YOURS TO COMMAND*, SLAG SORREL--IF YOU'RE AS GOOD A PILOT AS THE REPORTS SAY!

"SO THAT WAS IT! THE *HAGARIANS* NEEDED A *B-R* COMMANDER--AND I WAS ELECTED! THE OFFER LOOKED GOOD TO ME..."

THESE SHIPS ARE NEW--FAST! CAN YOU HANDLE ONE, SORREL?

STEP BACK OUT OF BLAST RANGE--AND I'LL SHOW YOU!

"THE HAGARIANS WEREN'T BLYING SIGHT—UNSEEN! I HAD TO SHOW THEM..."

ONCE A B-R PILOT, ALWAYS A B-R PILOT! I CAN DO ANYTHING WITH THIS JOB!

HE'S AMAZING, EXCELLENCY!

"BUT LATER... BACK AT THE LEADER'S HEADQUARTERS... CAME A FRESH SURPRISE..."

SIT DOWN, SORREL--FOR THE FINAL TEST--UNDER THAT TRUTH—LENS!

THESE ALIENS SURE ARE CAUTIOUS!

"I KNEW THAT UNDER A TRUTH-LENS I COULDN'T LIE--BUT I WASN'T AFRAID--I HAD NOTHING TO HIDE!"

YOU HAVE SAID YOU WILL FIGHT AGAINST ANY ENEMY OF OURS! WILL YOU FIGHT AGAINST EARTH, SLAG SORREL?

AGAINST EARTH?

"THE QUESTION STUNNED ME... BUT NOT AS MUCH AS WHEN I HEARD MYSELF REPLYING..."

YES! AGAINST EARTH--OR ANYONE ELSE--PROVIDED I'M PAID ENOUGH!

HA, HA! WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER PERFECTLY, SORREL!

"I GOT UP... HORRIFIED AT MY OWN WORDS--AT WHAT I HAD JUST LEARNED ABOUT MYSELF..."

SO I'D EVEN FIGHT AGAINST MY HOMELAND--FOR PAY--FOR MONEY--

HERE'S YOUR DIRECTIVE FOR THE ATTACK, COMMANDER!

"THE FLEET BLASTED AT DAWN... WITH THE HAGARIAN CHIEF ABOARD MY LEAD—ROCKET..."

135 BATTLEROCKETS OF THE MOST ADVANCED TYPE!

ENOUGH TO CRIPPLE EARTH--IF THIS STRIKE GOES THROUGH!

MYSTERY IN SPACE

"IT WAS LIKE A NIGHTMARE--A FEROCIOUS ASSAULT ON EARTH WITH *ME* LEADING IT! BUT DID I WANT TO HARM EARTH ...?"

NO! I DON'T! YET... WHAT CAN I DO NOW? EVEN IF I CRACKED UP THIS SHIP, THE OTHER 134 WOULD GO ON--

EXCELLENCY! LOOK!

"I WHIRLED AT THE SOUND OF ALARM IN THE *HAGARIAN'S* VOICE--AND ON OUR RAD-SCREEN I SAW..."

THE EARTH SPACE-NAVY! IN BATTLE ARRAY-- HEADING STRAIGHT AT US!

HOORAY!

"MY SHOUT DREW EVERYONE'S ATTENTION-- LIKE A MAGNET! AN OMINOUS HUSH FELL..."

SORREL...*YOU* ALERTED EARTH! YOU TRICKED US--SOMEHOW!

I DIDN'T, PAL... BUT I SURE WISH I HAD! PUT *THAT* IN YOUR TRUTH-LENS AND *SMOKE* IT!

"THEY HIT ME THEN--IN A MASS! THE AUTO-PILOT TOOK OVER AS I LET GO THE STICK AND STARTED SWINGING..."

I'M ON EARTH'S SIDE, YOU *MONKEYS*! SO LET'S START THE BATTLE-- RIGHT HERE AND NOW!

SLAY HIM!

"*HAGARIANS* ARE CRAFTY, BUT IT'S NOT BRAINS BUT BRAWN THAT PAYS OFF IN A ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE BRAWL..."

"THE SLUG-MATCH WAS OVER ALMOST BEFORE IT STARTED! I GRABBED THE STICK AGAIN..."

COMMANDER! VEER OFF--OR YOU'LL RAM US! *VEER OFF!*

"I DIDN'T RAM DIRECTLY--JUST SIDE—SWIPED THE NOSE-BUBBLE--SO THAT THE ICY COLD OF SPACE FINISHED THAT ONE OFF..."

AAAAAAA!

"I WENT AFTER THE OTHERS THEN! I DIDN'T EXPECT TO LIVE THROUGH IT--DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER I CARED TO! BUT SUDDENLY--IN MY EARS..."

SORREL! SORREL! JOIN OUR RANKS! GREAT GOING, FELLA! JOIN OUR RANKS!

THE EARTH SPACE-NAVY! AND--*THEY KNOW I'M HERE!*

"THE BATTLE THAT FOLLOWED WAS A ROUT! AND LATER...AS OUR NAVY '*OCCUPIED*' THE *NAGAR* PLANET..."

YOU *WERE* OUR OPERATIVE, SORREL! BY A NEW, SECRET DEVICE, WE WERE TUNED IN *ON YOUR MIND!* EVERYTHING YOU SAW OR HEARD HERE, WE DID TOO!

WE NEEDED A MAN OUT HERE, SLAG! THE SPACE-NAVY SELECTED *YOU*...

BUT WE KNEW THE TRUTH—LENS WOULD BETRAY OUR AGENT--SO YOU HAD TO BE *UNAWARE OF YOUR MISSION!*

REMEMBER YOUR VISIT TO THE PSYCH-EXAM DOCTOR, SLAG? THAT'S WHEN YOU WERE GIVEN THE POST-HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION TO SAY YOU *WOULD* FIGHT AGAINST EARTH!

"POST-HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION! SO THAT'S WHY I HAD UTTERED THOSE AWFUL WORDS! I FELT LIKE A NEW MAN--REBORN!"

"THEY GAVE ME HOME LEAVE BEFORE I HAD TO TAKE UP MY NEW DUTIES, AND ON EARTH SOMEONE WAS WAITING FOR ME..."

YOU'RE IN SPACE-NAVY INTELLIGENCE FROM NOW ON, SLAG! THAT'S YOUR REAL WORK--THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE FITTED FOR!

OF COURSE I DIDN'T MARRY ANYONE ELSE, SLAG SORREL! WHAT A SILLY QUESTION!

I HAD TO ASK IT, CORAL! SOME DAY--*ER*--I'LL TELL YOU WHY!

THE END

NOW MORE THAN EVER-

THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL

ON THE COVER OF *ANY* COMICS MAGAZINE IS *YOUR* GUARANTEE OF THE *BEST* IN COMICS READING

SUPERMAN • NATIONAL COMICS • DC

YES, WITH SO MANY DIFFERENT TITLES ON THE NEWSSTANDS, SOMETIMES IT'S HARD TO CHOOSE A MAGAZINE YOU'RE ***SURE*** TO LIKE, BUT PEOPLE WHO KNOW COMICS BEST ***KNOW*** THAT THE D-C SYMBOL ***ALWAYS*** MEANS A ***GOOD*** MAGAZINE!

DC
HOUSE of MYSTERY
25¢
WARNING!
AFTER YOU HAVE FINISHED READING THIS STORY, PLEASE DO NOT TELL YOUR FRIENDS THE SHOCKING...
Secret of the Little Black Bag!

For Example, IF YOU LIKE MYSTERY STORIES, YOU'RE PRETTY SURE TO LIKE...

MYSTERIES in SPACE

IF OUR SUN WERE REPLACED BY THE NEAREST STAR--*PROXIMA CENTAURI* -- WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT ON THE EARTH'S TEMPERATURE?

EARTH WOULD BE FAR COLDER THAN PLUTO IS NOW--ABOUT MINUS 350° F...

IF *S. DORADUS*--ONE OF THE BRIGHTEST STARS IN SPACE--TOOK THE PLACE OF OUR SUN, HOW WOULD IT EFFECT OUR TEMPERATURE?

EARTH WOULD BE ROASTED IN A FRACTION OF A MINUTE AND TURNED INTO VAPOR...

SOME ASTRONOMERS BELIEVE THAT THE *ASTEROIDS* ARE THE REMNANTS OF AN EXPLODED PLANET THAT ONCE REVOLVED BETWEEN MARS AND JUPITER. IF ALL THE ASTEROIDS DISCOVERED TO DATE WERE LUMPED TOGETHER IN ONE MASS, HOW WOULD IT COMPARE WITH THE EARTH?

THE COMBINED MASS OF THE ASTEROIDS IS ONLY ONE-THOUSANDTH THAT OF THE EARTH...

WHAT WOULD BE THE VISIBLE RESULT OF THE EARTH COLLIDING WITH THE OUTER PORTION OF A COMET?

MOST LIKELY THE ONLY NOTICEABLE EFFECT WOULD BE A SPLENDID SHOWER OF SHOOTING STARS IN THE NIGHT SKY...

ANNOUNCING the new DAISY DEFENDER repeating AIR RIFLE

FIRST AND ONLY FORCE-FEED LEVER-ACTION DAISY IN 30 YEARS!

COMBINATION Open-end Peep Sight ALSO Adjustable for Windage, Elevation

READY FOR CHRISTMAS!

Your Daisy Dealer wants you to drop in now and see this streamlined new Defender Repeater—most beautiful Daisy ever! It's packed with wonderful new features! Rear-sight lowers, lifts—moves right, left—adjusts instantly from notch-sight to peep-sight. Forced-feed 50-shot shooting barrel has Positive Action. Secret "pocket" in butt to carry Bull's Eye BBs. Realistic molded full oval stock and "hunting style" fore-piece. Perfect for fun and medal-winning NRA shooting. For help in getting Defender for Christmas, ask Dealer for FREE Daisy Reminder Kit or send coupon, unused 3c stamp!

No. 141 **ONLY $7.98**

DAISY 1000-SHOT
RED RYDER
OPERATED BY STEPHEN SCISSORS & 2
COWBOY CARBINE

Red Ryder Carbine holds nearly 1000 BBs—looks, feels, handles like real Western saddle gun. Leather thong on Carbine Ring. Realistic full oval molded stock and fore-end—both "checkered." Red Ryder's name, picture, horse "branded" on stock. Get one!

No. 111 $5.75

DAISY PUMP GUN

Get this 50-shot pump action repeater with "gold-engraved" jacket. Take-down model. King of All Air Rifles! See it at your Daisy Dealers' now!

No. 25 $7.98

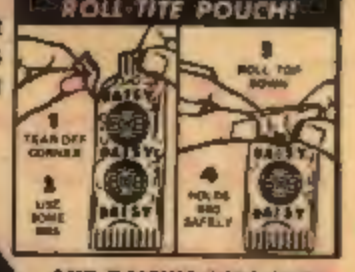
DAISY GRAVITY-FED REPEATER

Buy this husky repeater! Holds almost 1000 shot. Top performance at low cost. See at Dealers now!

No. 155 $4.98

SHOOTERS! TRY THIS TRICK!

NO BB SPILLING with ROLL-TITE POUCH!



AND DAISY'S ROLL-TITE POUCH OF BULLS EYE GIVES YOU **MORE BB's** for 5¢

HANDY "SECRET" POCKET

ASK YOUR DEALER OR MAIL COUPON FOR

FREE REMINDER KIT

FREE "CHRISTMAS DAISY" REMINDER KIT

See these beautiful Daisys at your favorite store today! Ask Dealer for FREE Daisy Christmas Reminder Kit or mail coupon enclosing unused 3c stamp! Kit will *remind* Dad, Mom or guardian to get you the Daisy you want for Christmas. It helped *thousands* get their Daisy last Christmas.

Do not order air rifles or BB shot direct—SEE YOUR DEALER! Prices subject to change without notice and higher Rockies, West, Canada.

DAISY BULLS EYE SHOT IS *approved* for use in

DAISY AIR RIFLES

DAISY MANUFACTURING CO., DEPT. 1692, PLYMOUTH, MICH., U. S. A.

MAIL COUPON!

DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY
Dept. 1692, Plymouth, Michigan, U. S. A.

I enclose unused 3c stamp to help cover copyrighted Reminder Kit mailing cost. Rush Kit postpaid.

NAME.....

ST. & NO.....

CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....

BOYS! GIRLS!

SEND FOR THIS HILARIOUS

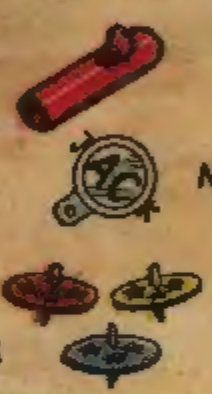
Cracker Jack FUN PACK

CONTAINS ALL THESE FUN MAKERS

PAIR OF BIG EARS

TRICK MUSTACHE

COMIC EYEGLASSES



WARNING WHISTLE

MAGNIFYING GLASS

3 FAST SPINNING TOPS

ALL for ONLY 10¢ IN COIN and JUST ONE Cracker Jack LABEL

SEND FOR YOUR FUN PACK TODAY

You'll have the time of your life with these comical party disguises. Big ears—3 to 5 times larger than your ears . . . a tricky mustache that stays put . . . comic eyeglasses that stay on—can't you imagine the fun you'll have wearing these hilarious disguises? Three fast spinning tops, a real magnifying glass and a screaming warning whistle complete this wonderful Fun Pack. Don't miss it. Send for yours today.

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THE MORE YOU EAT . . .
THE MORE YOU WANT!

FUN PACK COUPON—USE IT NOW

The Cracker Jack Co., Desk 110,
4800 West 66th Street, Chicago 38, Illinois

Enclosed is one Cracker Jack label and 10¢ in coin for which send me the 9-piece FUN PACK.

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